

IN THE CLAIMS

For the convenience of the Examiner, all pending claims of the present Application are shown below whether or not an amendment has been made.

1. (Original) A method for communicating in an education environment, comprising:

determining a current question from a plurality of questions, the current question having a plurality of possible answers;

receiving from one of a plurality of remote units a message comprising a remote unit identifier and a current response;

determining that the current response is valid if the current response corresponds to one of the possible answers for the current question;

if the current response is valid, visually indicating to a user of the remote unit that the current response is valid; and

if the current response is not valid, visually indicating to the user of the remote unit that the current response is not valid.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the visually indicating steps are performed using a single display simultaneously viewable by all users of the remote units.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

receiving a command from the remote unit; and
determining a new current question from the questions in response to the command.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

determining a current question for a second one of the remote units;

receiving a message comprising a current response and a remote unit identifier for the second remote unit;

determining that the current response of the second remote unit is valid if it corresponds to one of the possible answers to the current question.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the message from the remote unit is communicated as a wireless signal.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

determining that a valid response for each of the questions has been received from the remote unit; and

visually indicating to a user that a valid response for each of the questions was received.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

determining that a valid response for each of the questions has been received from the remote unit; and

visually indicating to a user that a valid response for each of the questions was received;

comparing the complete set of valid responses to a set of correct answers to the questions; and

determining a score for the complete set of valid responses.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein visually indicating that the current response is valid comprises:

displaying a first visible indication if the current response matches a previous valid response for the current question;

displaying a second visible indication if the current response does not match the previous valid response; and

displaying a third visible indication if no previous valid response has been received from the remote unit.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 8, wherein the first visible indication comprises a first color, the second visible indication comprises a second color, and the third visible indication comprises a third color.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the questions are ordered in a sequence, the current response is a first current response, and the method further comprises:

determining a next question in the sequence, the next question having a plurality of possible answers;

visually indicating the next question to the user of the remote unit;

receiving a second current response to the next question from the remote unit;

determining that the second current response is valid if the second current response corresponds to one of the possible answers to the next question; and

if the second current response is valid, visually indicating to the user of the remote unit that the second current response is valid; and

if the second current response is not valid, visually indicating to the user of the remote unit that the second current response is not valid.

11. (Original) A graphical user interface, comprising:
a plurality of sections associated with a plurality of users, each section displaying a remote unit identifier identifying a remote unit operated by one of the users, each section comprising:

a first visible indication operable to be displayed in the section when a current response received from the remote unit corresponding to the section is not a valid response for a current question;

a second visible indication operable to be displayed in the section when the current response received from the remote unit is a valid response and the remote unit has not submitted a previous valid response to the current question;

a third visible indication operable to be displayed in the section when the current response from the remote unit is a valid response that matches a previous valid response;
and

a fourth visible indication operable to be displayed when the current response from the remote unit is a valid response different from a previous valid response.

12. (Original) The graphical user interface of Claim 11, wherein the graphical user interface appears on a single display simultaneously viewable by all of the users of the remote units.

13. (Original) The graphical user interface of Claim 11, wherein each section further comprises:

a first portion displaying the remote unit identifier;
and

a second portion displaying a question identifier for the current question.

14. (Original) The graphical user interface of Claim 13, wherein the second portion is further operable to display a new question identifier in response to a command from the remote unit.

15. (Original) The graphical user interface of Claim 13, wherein each section further comprises a fifth visible indication operable to be displayed in the section when a valid response to each of a plurality of questions has been received from the remote unit of the section.

16. (Original) The graphical user interface of Claim 11, wherein the first visible indication is a first color, the second visible indication is a second color, the third visible indication is a third color, and the fourth visible indication is a fourth color.

17. (Original) A communication system, comprising:
a plurality of remote units;
a memory operable to store a plurality of possible answers to a plurality of questions;
a base station operable to receive messages from the remote units, each message comprising a remote unit identifier and a current response;
a processor operable to determine for each message a current question using the remote unit identifier, the processor further operable to determine that the current response is valid if the current response corresponds to one of the possible answers for the current question; and
a display simultaneously viewable by all users of the remote units and operable to visually indicate to the users whether their respective current responses are valid.

18. (Original) The communication system of Claim 17, wherein the base station is operable to receive messages communicated as wireless signals.

19. (Original) The communication system of Claim 17, wherein the base station is operable to receive a first message from one of the remote units and to reject subsequent messages for a specified duration after the first message is received.

20. (Original) The communication system of Claim 17, wherein the processor is further operable to change the current question for one of the remote units.

21. (Original) The communication system of Claim 17, wherein the processor is further operable to determine whether a valid response has been received previously from the remote unit, and the display is further operable to:

display a first visible indication if no previous valid response has been received;

display a second visible indication if the current response matches the previous valid response; and

display a third visible indication if the current response is different from a previous valid response.

22. (Original) The communication system of Claim 17, wherein the processor is further operable to:

determine if a valid response to each questions has been received from each of the remote units;

compare each valid response to a question to a correct answer for the question; and

determine a score for each remote unit based on the valid responses submitted by that remote unit.

[Please add the following new claims.]

23. (New) A method for communicating -in an education environment, comprising:

displaying a plurality of sections on a display, each one of the sections associated with one of a plurality of remote units;

receiving from a selected remote unit a message comprising a remote unit identifier for the selected remote unit and a current response to a question, the question having a plurality of possible responses; and

in response to receiving the current response from the selected remote unit, displaying a visual indication in the section corresponding to the selected remote unit, the visual indication indicating whether the current response corresponds to a previous response to the question received from the one remote unit.

24. (New) The method of Claim 23, wherein the display is simultaneously viewable by all of the users of the remote units.

25. (New) The method of Claim 23, further comprising displaying the remote unit identifier for each remote unit in the corresponding section of the display.

26. (New) The method of Claim 24, wherein the visual indication comprises flashing the remote unit identifier in a particular color.

27. (New) The method of Claim 23, further comprising:

determining whether the current response corresponds to any of the possible answers to the question; and

if the current response does not correspond to one of the possible answers, indicating with the visual indication that the current response does not correspond to one of the possible answers.

28. (New) The method of Claim 23, wherein:

the message is received from the selected remote unit wirelessly; and

subsequent messages from the one remote unit are disregarded for a predetermined amount of time after the current message is received.

29. (New) The method of Claim 23, wherein a different question may be associated with each remote unit, and the method further comprises determining the question associated with the selected remote unit.

30. (New) A communications system, comprising:

a memory operable to store a question and a plurality of possible answers to the question;

a display comprising a plurality of sections, each one of the sections associated with one of a plurality of remote units, wherein the display is simultaneously viewable by users of the remote units;

a base station operable to receive, from a selected remote unit, a message comprising a remote unit identifier and a current response to the question and further operable to store the current response in the memory; and

a processor operable to determine, based on information stored in the memory, whether the current response received from the selected remote unit corresponds to a previous response received from the selected remote unit and further operable to display a visual indication on the display in the section corresponding to the remote unit indicating whether the current response corresponds to the previous response.

31. (New) The system of Claim 30, wherein the display is simultaneously viewable by all of the users of the remote units.

32. (New) The system of Claim 30, further comprising displaying the remote unit identifier for each remote unit in the corresponding section of the display.

33. (New) The system of Claim 32, wherein the visual indication comprises flashing the remote unit identifier in a particular color.

34. (New) The system of Claim 30, wherein the processor is further operable to:

determine whether the current response corresponds to any of the possible answers to the question; and

if the current response does not correspond to one of the possible answers, indicate with the visual indication that the current response does not correspond to one of the possible answers.

35. (New) The system of Claim 30, wherein:

the message is received from the one remote unit wirelessly; and

subsequent messages from the one remote unit are disregarded for a predetermined amount of time after the current message is received.

36. (New) The system of Claim 30, wherein a different question may be associated with each remote unit, and the processor is further operable to determine the question associated with the selected remote unit.

37. (New) A graphical user interface, comprising:

a plurality of sections on a display simultaneously viewable by users of a plurality of remote units, each section corresponding to one of the remote units, each section displaying:

a first portion displaying a remote unit identifier identifying the remote unit corresponding to the section; and

a second portion displaying a question identifier identifying a particular one of a plurality of questions; and

a visual indication operable to be displayed in a selected section of the display when a message is received by a base station from a selected remote unit corresponding to the selected section, wherein the message comprises a response to the question identified by the question identifier.

38. (New) The graphical user interface of Claim 37, wherein the graphical user interface appears on a single display simultaneously viewable by all of the users of the remote units.

39. (New) The graphical user interface of Claim 37, wherein the second portion is further operable to display a new question identifier in response to a command from the remote unit.

40. (New) The graphical user interface of Claim 37, wherein the visual indication indicates whether the response corresponds to a previous response received from the selected remote unit.
